



## **Disaster and Emergency Management Resources**

### **Inspecting Farm Buildings for Wind Damage**

- Wind damage to buildings is not always readily apparent.
- Check asphalt roof shingles for cracks at the butt end, where they may have been weakened from flexing. Make sure individual shingles have not blown off. Thoroughly inspect shingles on the ridge, gable ends, and eaves. Check metal roofs thoroughly to see if nails have worked loose and renail them as soon as possible. On a sunny day, check the roof carefully from inside with the building doors closed. While looking for holes in the roof, inspect the ridge, gable ends, and eaves for possible structural separation.
- Inspect the foundation. The plate should not be separated from the studding where the foundation meets the walls. On block foundations, inspect mortar joints to make sure the block with the plate bolt in it hasn't separated from the wall. On stone or concrete foundations, check to see that the plate bolts have not worked loose.
- Make sure the silo is still plumb. Look for loose hoops. Inspect the roof to be sure it remains fastened to the silo. Inspect the base of metal silos inside and outside for hairline cracks. If there is rust around the base, remove it with a wire brush. Then check for cracks and apply a rust-preventive paint. Look for new cracks in the plaster of empty concrete stave silos.
- Inspect the interior of buildings for structural damage. Using a good light, check the framing. Look for ridge separation, loose knee braces, and loose rafters where the rafters join the walls.